Labour Bill

135. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a comprehensive Labour Bill during the Budget Session of Parliament; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the proposed Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Agreement with Bangladesh for taking back Chakma Refugees

136. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bangladesh, Government have agreed to take back 24,353 tribal refugees, mostly Chakmas from Tripura; and

(b) whether the repatriation, as agreed to, has taken place and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) The repatriation, which was scheduled to begin on January 15, could not take place as the refugees were not convinced of their safety on their return to Bangladesh and, therefore, refused to go back.

Gorkha land issue

137. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the GNLF Leader, Mr. Subhas Ghising, submitted a memorandum to the Central Government during the month of December, 1986 listing their demands;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether the Central Government had a discussion with the Chief Minister of West Bengal in the recent past and also with the GNLF leaders including Mr. Ghising in Delhi recently on Gorkhaland issue; if so, what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A copy of the same is enclosed (*See* below).

(c) Yes, Sir. It was agreed that Shri Ghising would formulate his proposals regarding citizenship in greater detail and forward it to the Home Ministry for examination. Subsequently, Shri Ghising also announced suspension of the agitation for a period of two months initially beginning from 4th February, 1987.

GORKHA NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT

(STATE COMMITTEE)

Head Office : Darjeeling

GORKHALAND, BHARAT:

Dated: December 15, 1986.

Hon'ble Shri Buta Singh,
Union Home Minister,
Government, of India,
New Delhi.

Respected Sir,

I am extremely thankful to you for your letter of 17th September, 1986 assuring me of an early meeting with you. More than two months have passed since then and I am still eagerly awaiting a call from you. I am aware of your very busy schedule and preoccupation with affairs of the State requiring your urgent and immediate attention.

Meanwhile, the situation in Darjeeling district and adjoining areas has worsened, on account of the path of calculated violence pursued by the CPI-M with the active connivance and support of the Left Front Government of West Bengal. It is an open secret that the State Government is supplying arms and ammunition to their party men. In fact, the CRP and BSF units deployed in the State are being misused by the State Government to wage a virtual war on our peace-loving and long-suffering people. I am sure you are fully in the know of it and the fact that this has created an explosive situation. Any further delay in containing this development is fraught with the gravest consequences. Already, this has led to many violent incident scores of innocent people have been killed or injured. There is serious danger of the violence snow balling. The night mare of civil strife in the whole region is, therefore, real and frightening.

The Gorkha National Liberation Front firmly believes in peaceful, democratic and Constitutional methods for achieving its goal of a separate state of Gorkhaland within the Indian Union and for which it has launched a peaceful movement with the active and mass support and cooperation of the people. It therefore, is of the firm opinion that the deployment and wrong use of the Central paramilitary forces namely CRP and BSF, to crush any peaceful and democratic movement is not the answer. It will only aggravate the existing inflammable situation further and, indeed, it has already done so. Peace and normalcy can be restored to Darjeeling and its contiguous areas only through justice by the Government of India and not by the bullets of the West Bengal Government.

We are grateful to our respected Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, your goodself, the erstwhile Congress-I Vice-President, Shri Arjun Singh, and the Law Minister, Shri Ashok Sen, for rightly and fairly acknowledging that our movement is not anti-national and that as Indians we seek a solution of our problems within the framework of the Indian Constitution. We, however, sincerely feel that this just observation is not enough by itself. It calls for further positive steps to find a peaceful solution to our legitimate and constitutional demand. The people of our region seek justice and peace from the Centre.

The situation in Darjeeling district and the adjoining areas has deteriorated to such an extent that there is hardly any law and order and harly any administration. Such a drift in the situation created by the acts of omission and commission of the West Bengal Government is directly against the will of the people and national interest. This needs to be checked firmly at the earliest. It is this thought that has led me to come to New Delhi and seek once again an appointment with you so that I can inform your goodself personally about the latest situation and its dangerous consequences. I sincerely fell that my meeting with you will act as a healing touch to the near volcanic situation prevailing in the region. We would also like to have the privilege of calling on our Prime Minister, Shri

Rajiv Gandhi, in the near future—here or during his proposed visit to Darjeeling.

Since all the relevant documents about our demand are with you, I need hardly repeat the details about our genuine demands here. I sincerely, hope and believe that you will give your utmost consideration to our genuine demands and take early steps to find a peaceful solution to meet the legitimate aspirations of not only the people of Darjeeling district and adjoining areas but of all the Gorkhas who have been living in India before Independence and prior to the Indo-Nepal Treaty of 21st July 1950 and are clamouring for their Indian identity in our great and democratic country.

Yours faithfully,

Sd|-

(SUBASH GHISING)

PRESIDENT

GORKHA NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT

Camp: New Delhi.

Statehood for Goa

138. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the agitation in Goa during the second half of December, 1986 on language issue and for granting of Statehood to this Union Territory;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what is the Central Government's reaction to the issues raised by the agitators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the agitation as from 19-12-1986, 192 incidents were reported, 136 offences were registered and 200 persons were arrested on various charges, including 4 under the National Security Act.

(c) The Legislative Assembly of the Union Territory is competent to enact legislation adopting any one or more of the languages in use in the Union Territory as the language to be used for all or any of the official purposes of the Union Territory. The Bill has been passed by the Assembly in this regard recently. As regards conferment of statehood on the Union Territory, the matter will be given due consideration at the appropriate time keeping in view the totality of circumstances and other relevant factors.

Jodhpur detenus

139. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a number of innoocent women and children among the Jodhpur detenus;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to release them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) There are only two women and no children among the undertrials of 'Waging of war' case, in Jodhpur Central Jail. The case is pending trial in the Additional Special Court in Jodhpur.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.